

2002 GAME RECAPS

MICHIGAN ST 56 E Mich 7-MSU dominated the 1H with a 28-0 lead. They drove 26 yds (after KR), 57 and 80 yds on 3 of their first 4 poss of the 2H, 49-0 and EM got a garbage TD w/ 6:02 left.

MICHIGAN ST 27 Rice 10-MSU drove 78 yds for a TD but Rice went on an 7:15 drive for a 22 yd FG. MSU missed a 37 yd FG and Rice drove 80 yds for a TD and stunningly led 10-7 at the half. MSU settled for 45 and 50 yd FG's on drives where they did not net a FD (after PR, int) and got 37 and 18 yd TD drives after Rice fmbld punts.

California 46 MICHIGAN ST 22-Cal led 25-0 at the half but had only 2 scoring drives that produced a FD in the 1H. MSU went 91 & 57 yds for TD's to pull within 25-14 but Cal went 69, 33 (after int), and 83 (after SOD) yds for TD's to lead 46-14. MSU went 75 yds for a TD w/ 2:50 left.

Notre Dame 21 MICHIGAN ST 17-ND went 80 yds for a TD to open. MSU got a 35 yd FG. ND got an int at the MSU 31. A questionable pass interf call set ND up for a TD w/:11 left in the 2Q and a stunning turn-around, 14-3. MSU got a 38 yd TD pass w/ 13:22 left and then drove 97 yds in 10 plays. On 4th & 11 Smoker hit Rogers w/a 21 yd TD pass and MSU took the lead, 17-14. ND responded with a 60 yd TD pass w/ 1:15 left. MSU got to the ND 40 but was int'd at the 5.

MICHIGAN ST 39 N'western 24-MSU led 17-10 w/ 6:10 left in an evenly played half. MSU added a 37 yd FG w/:24 left, 20-10. NW got int's on consec poss and had an 80 yd TD drive to pull within 20-17. They missed a 50 yd FG and the game changed dramatically. MSU ret'd a punt 88 yds for a TD, drove 74 yds for a 21 yd FG and got a 31 yd TD pass after an int scoring 16 pts in a span of 5:51. They added a 53 yd FG w/ 5:08 left to lead 39-17 before allowing NW a TD w/ 4:28 left.

IOWA 44 Mich St 16-Five TO's did in MSU as UI's #1 ranked Big 10 offense was held to 284 yds but put up 44 pts. MSU had an 8-2 FD 1Q edge but trailed 17-7 as UI got a 94 yd KR TD and 62 yd int ret TD. UI added a TD pass & FG, 27-7 at the half. MSU turned it over on the 3Q's 1st 2 poss setting UI up w/ a 21 yd TD drive and a FG, 37-7. Iowa made it 44-7 and MSU was SOD at the UI 21. MSU got a TD on a 52 yd drive. Iowa took an intentional safety after being pinned at their own 2.

Minnesota 28 MICHIGAN ST 7-MSU got a 52 yd pass to Rogers which set a TD run. UM drove 96 yds for a TD including a 45 yd TD pass, 7-7. UM added a 59 yd drive for a 44 yd FG and a 22 yd FG, 13-7 at half. UM opened the 3Q w/ a 79 yd TD drive (2 pt conv) and then went 80 yds for another TD to lead 28-7. MSU was int'd at the UM 1 w/ 7:05 left and the Gophers ran out the clock finishing at the MSU 3.

Wisconsin 42 MICHIGAN ST 24-Smoker was susp & Dowdell started. UW had scoring drives of 68, 46 and 80 yds and led 21-0. MSU got a 36 yd FG. The Badgers went 62 yds for a TD w/:05 left, 28-3 and the crowd booed. MSU opened the 3Q w/ an 84 yd TD drive but UW answered w/ a 65 yd drive, 35-10. MSU went 67 yds but was int'd in the EZ but later went 60 yds for a TD, 35-17. UW went 79 yds for a TD. Dowdell got inj'd and on Alexander's 2nd pass he hit Rogers w/ a 44 yd TD w/ 5:23 left.

MICHIGAN 49 Michigan St 3-MSU got a 39 yd FG but UM drove 63, 59, 51, 53 and 61 yds for TD's. MSU was SOD at the UM 19 and the Wolves drove 81 yds for a TD. MSU was SOD at the 5 and the Wolves drove 14 yds for a TD foll an int with 1:03 left.

Michigan St 56 INDIANA 21-MSU was playing under interim HC Watts as Williams was fired during the week and MSU simply dominated the 1H as they had a 341-124 yd edge and led 42-7. They extended it to 56-7 w/ 5:14 left 3Q. Indy got 80 & 57 yd TD drives late vs MSU bkups.

Purdue 45 MICHIGAN ST 42-In the 1H PU had a 343-59 yd edge but needed a late surge to lead 24-17. It was 42-37 with 7:43 left and on 4th & 8 PU QB Kirsch had the wind knocked out of him. Orton came in and lobbed a 40 yd TD pass w/ 3:18 left, 45-42. MSU got 1 FD but on 4th & 5 from the 50 w/ 1:20 left came up 1 yd short and PU ran out the clock.

PENN ST 61 Michigan St 7-PSU missed a 19 yd FG but MSU fmbld setting up a PSU 27 yd TD drive. PSU had a 75 yd TD drive and MSU went on to miss two FG's. PSU had an 81 yd PR for a TD and 54, 78, 60 and 40 yd drives for TD's to lead 48-0 at the half. The backups played the 2H.